far below the requirement for continuation of a passport office in a State. As per the norms fixed by the Staff Inspection Unit of the Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance, a passport Issuing Authority must deal with atleast 3,000 passport applications per month.

(d) and (e) There is no such proposal under consideration.

Loans to "weaker sections" under DRI scheme

2695. SHRI N. E. BALARAM : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount advanced between 1972 to 1983 by commercial banks to "weaker sections" under the differential rate of interest scheme and the number of beneficiaries;

(b) whether proper data has been collected as to the value of assets created with DRI money;

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether any method has been worked out to evaluate the assets that might have been created through DRI money ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI) : (a) The total number of borrowal accounts and the amount outstanding as at the end of every year from 1972 to 1983, by the public sector banks under the Differential Rate of Interest (DRI) Scheme is given in the statement (*See* below).

(b) to (d) Reserve Bank of India has reported that the existing data reporting system does not yield data on the value of assets created out of bank loans including loans given under DRI Scheme. However, banks are required to supervise and monitor the end-use of credit in order to ensure its proper utilisation. Wherever mis-utilisation of credit is detected they are required to take remedial action including recovery and recall of their loan, if necessary.

Statement

As at the end of December	No. of borrowal accounts (in lakhs)	Amount outstanding (Rs. in crores)
1972	0·26	0·87
1973	2·30	10·06
1974	3·13	13·35
1975	4·65	20·99
1976	10·05	42·24
1977	13·92	67·82
1978	16·20	90·00
1979	20·85	140·96
1980	25·10	192.49
1981	29·25	257·49
1982	33·44	311·50
1983	37·46	369·99

(Source : 1972 to 1982—Report on the Task Force on DRI Scheme)
1983—RESERVE BANK OF INDIA Data Provisional.

Customs Baggage Rules

2696. SHRI PRABHAKAR RAO KALVALA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have recently relaxed the Customs Baggage Rules; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI) : (a) and (b) The Baggage Rules, 1978 have been amended on 25-11-86 primarily to benefit Indians who return after working abroad for one year and are not eligible for concessions under the Transfer of Residence Rules.

A new provision has been inserted permitting Indians returning from abroad on termination of work to import used house hold articles and personal effects upto a value of Rs. 20,000/- free of duty, subject to the condition that they have worked abroad for at least a period of one year and are returning on termination of work and produce a certificate from the Indian Mission in the country of their employment to that effect. This facility will be available to a passenger only once in three years.